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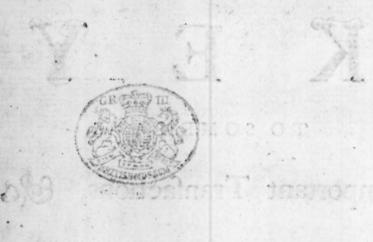
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TO SOME LATE

Important Transactions, & ...

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KEY

TO SOME LATE
IMPORTANT TRANSACTIONS:

IN SEVERAL

LETTERS

FROM A

Certain GREAT MAN,

No Body knows Where,

WROTE

No Body knows When,

And directed to

No Body knows Who.

LONDON:

Printed for S. DIAL in Covent Garden: And fold at all the Pamphlet Shops in London and Westminster. MDCCXLH.

(Price One Shilling.)

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IMPORTANT TRANSACTIONS:
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LONDON:

(Pare On States)

forters were written,

PREFACE

TO THE

READER.

S the Curiofity of the prefent Age may perhaps expect fomething to be faid concerning the following Sheets, I think it a Duty incumbent on me to gratify, as far as in me lies, that reigning Passion.

THO' my Title-page is fufficient to inform the Public of my Ignorance in this Affair, yet some may fay I ought at least to have acquainted them in what Language these myste-

rious

rious Letters were written, by what Means they fell into my Hands, and for what Reason they are now exhibited.

As to the first of these Queries, they were a Legacy to me, among many other Things, from my Greatgrandfather, by the Mother's Side, who, being called from his native Country at a very early Age, on a Business not at all material to any but our own Family, had the Opportunity of travelling through most Parts of the habitable Globe; in which of them he met with these valuable Manuscripts he did not think fit to make any one acquainted; all therefore that I can fay on this Head is, that they were wrote partly in Hieroglyphics, and partly in Cypher; neither of which I being versed in, had

had Recourse to several who had the Reputation of being more skilled in this obstrufe Manner of transmitting Things to Posterity; but after much Time being loft in confulting the Christian Literati, Chance threw a Chaldean Few in my Way, who in a short Time rendered them as intelligible as they now are; and I am apt to believe has done them the Justice he pretends to, because, if he had intended to put any Deception on me or the World, he might as well have found fictitious Names for Places or Persons as for the rest he took upon him to understand; but these he frankly told me were what came not in the Compass of his Learning, and he supposed to be private Characters invented by the Letter-writer, and only to be unravelled by those to whom he had previously fent a Key. Key. Therefore, as there is no Poffibility of making any Discovery either of the Name of the great Man
who wrote the Letters, or those of
the Persons to whom they were addressed, or of the Places marked by
those dark and unintelligible Characters, the Reader must think it more
honest and ingenuous in me to put only Stars rather than to prefix Names
of my own inventing, which might
indeed have been a Deception slattering to his Curiosity, but is what I
could not have answered to myself.

SOME Persons indeed, who have perused the Manuscript, would fain persuade me that the Jew, for some private Reasons, had declined acquainting even me with the Truth of the Affair, and will have it that the Thing is of a more modern Date than

I ever did, or can yet be brought to imagine. They will have it to be of Saxon Original, and one is for affixing the Transactions to one Epoche, and another is as positive they happened in a different one. The most probable of all is, that Edrick, the great Favourite of Ethelred, King of England, was the real Author. All our Histories inform us how that confummate Traitor, being raised to the highest Posts, and intrusted with the whole Wealth of the Nation, abused the Confidence of his royal Master, and not only oppressed the People by the most exorbitant Imposts, but alfo fold for foreign Gold both King and Country. It was by his Means, and his alone, that England was reduced to little better than a Province to Denmark: For by his committing the Navy, that Bulwark of this Island, B

Island, wholly to the Command of such as he knew would obey his Instructions, and, corrupting the great Officers at home, he gave an easy Entrance to those lordly Invaders, who afterwards settled themselves upon the Throne.

But all this I look upon as mere Suggestion, and find there are many Circumstances mentioned in several of these Letters which no way agree with those Times, nor with the Character of Edrick. To mention no more, we do not read of any Brother that he had, at least that was concerned in public Affairs. Basser, who, I think, is the most full in relation to this Treason, speaks not a Word of any such Person, and I am apt to believe the Jew much more in the right, who supposes this Transaction

ever

tion no less ancient than the Reign of Solomon, King of Ifrael, and that these Letters were wrote by Ahab to fome foreign Prince, with whom he had engaged to favour the Descent of Adonijah.

BUT this I must submit to the Opinion of the Public; for, after I have faid all I can, it amounts to no more than a Confession that I can say nothing decifive in the Matter. I shall now proceed to the Reason that determined me to bring to Light what has doubtless for a great Number of Ages lain buried in Obscurity; and I must here intreat the Indulgence of the Town, when I acknowledge that the Vanity of shewing I had so remarkable a Piece of Antiquity in my Custody had no small Share in my Intentions of printing it. I can how-B 2

ever give a better, which is, that the Blackness of some former Minister may serve as a Foil to set off the Whiteness of those of later Days; and this, I trust, will excuse all other Desiciencies on the Part of

The EDITOR.

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TO SOME LATE

Important Transactions, &c.

To His Eminence

CARDINAL * * * *

AM forry to find by your Eminence's of the 4th, that any Person or Persons should be capable of giving the least Interruption to that good Understanding which has so long subsisted between us. Sure I am, nothing in my Conduct can justly have given

given Room for the Suspicions your Court feems to have conceived of me; and if Things have not happened altogether fo much to our Wishes as we expected, the ill Event ought to be attributed only to cross and unforeseen Accidents, and not either to my Neglect or Lukewarmness. The * * * are a People not eafily imposed upon, and my Lord * * * * when Ambaffador, had left Things in fuch a Situation as very much puzzled my Brother to fet right; but I do not doubt, if he will he able foon to work them to your Defires. In the mean time, give me Leave to complain in my Turn on the Backwardness of your Court in giving an Affent to what was calculated merely for your Service, and that of the grand Defign on Foot. What, in the Name of Policy, can make you fo dilatory in promising what is never intended to be performed, and if performed, would be of no manner of Prejudice? I beg your Eminence to be affured fuch a Proceeding is sufficient to open the Eyes of the most dim-fighted among us; and all I can do, either by myself or Emissaries, will not amuse the Prince or People much longer: I therefore earnestly entreat

no farther Excuses may delay the Signing; I will answer for the Consequences when done, but cannot for those which may attend the retarding it, tho' but for a small Space longer. I will not trouble your Eminence with any Complaints concerning Don * * *, 'tis enough that Don * * * *, who fees the Difficulties, nay the Dangers I struggle with, has already, or he very much deceives me, remonstrated to him the Injustice of his Accusations; if I am happy enough to be cleared in your Eminence's Opinion, I shall refer to Time the Vindication of my Behaviour, which I am very certain will convince the whole *** Ministry of the Integrity of my Intentions, and with how perfect an Attachment I have the Honour to be

Your Eminence's

Most devoted, &c.

To Monfieur **

SIR,

Thank you for the Care you took in forwarding mine to his Eminence the Cardinal * * * * and Don * * *, to both which I have received fatisfactory Answers. It was indeed high Time the Money should be remitted, because our * * * * * meet three Days hence, and nothing is to be carried there, but by fecuring every Individual before-hand; and I could name fome, and even of those not unknown to you, who have of late grown cool upon the grand Point. Our Opposers 'gain ground every Day, and it behoves us to be more than ordinarily diligent: For my own Part, I have gone Lengths which I believe few in my Station and Circumstances would have ventured; I shall however think myself happy if the Affair can be at last accomplished. I wait with much Impatience the Arrival of a Courier from * * * *, and shall communicate to your Court what Progress

my Brother has made. I am with great Sincerity,

SIR,

Yours, &c.

To DON ***.

Trouble you with the inclosed, being well affured there is a Person at your Court on whose Sincerity I cannot depend; not that I imagine he would be guilty of any Thing prejudicial to our common Cause from any other Motive than a personal Pique he has to me, and which it would not be proper at this Time for me to take any Steps to remove; for which Reason, I have requested his Excellency, as well as the other Persons concerned, to make no Mention of my Name. As you are admitted into their Confidence, I defire the fame Favour of you, and do not in the least doubt, from the Character given of you, but that you will acquit yourself of the

the great Trust reposed in you, with all the Fidelity that can be wish'd, by him who has the Honour to be, with the highest Esteem,

Your most humble Servant, &c.

To his Excellency

DON ****.

I know not whether my Astonishment or my Concern were the most predominant Passion, on reading the last Dispatches from the *** Minister, because it is easy for me to perceive by them, as well as by the late Conferences Mr. ---- has had with the Marquis **** that Things have been represented to your Excellency in a quite different Light to what they are in reality. I have more than once intreated your Excellency to depend on nothing for certain but what comes from my own Hand, or Mr. ---- or Mr. ----'s Assurances: Those Gentlemen may be relied upon, especially the former; and as

I am obliged, by the Necessity of my Affairs, to appear here the very Reverse of what I am in reality, I am every Hour in Danger of being traduced, even by those whose Principles render Actors in the Schemes I form, and which I must feem most to discountenance: It is certainly a very hard Game I play, attended with Scandals, Difficulties, and Dangers of every Kind; and if those who are in the Bottom of the Secret, are not for generous to judge favourably of my Conduct and refolve to give no Ear to what may with Reason enough be alledged against me by those who wish well to the Cause, yet must not know I am engaged in it, there will be no Possibility of carrying it on. I am far from blaming either my Lord * * * or Me. * * * for the Severities they treat me walk They look upon me as the most bitter and dangerous Enemy to the Affair I am with the utmost Affiduity labouring to promote But those who know me better, or at least ought to do fo, by the Advantages their Nat tion has received from my A----n, thousand give no Attention to any idle Reports, which spring only from a mistaken Zeal. I have yet no Reason to apprehend your Excellence C 2

is among the Number of those whose Suspicions fo greatly injure me; and therefore take the Liberty to entreat your Excellency will fet that Matter right with the Cardinal and Don * * *. I need not tell your Excellency, who are fo great a Master in Politicks, that nothing can be brought about without a perfect Confidence; and as our Defign is of the most nice and delicate Nature that perhaps was ever formed, and my Situation fuch as would render me utterly unable to forward it, without feeming to oppose it in the most vehement Manner, I cannot but think it strange to be charged with any Inconfistency in Conduct .-- All depends on my acting as a Foe to those to whom I am most a Friend, and if this Mask should by any Accident be pluck'd off, the whole Machine, which has cost so much Time, Money, and Labour of the Mind. falls to the Ground at once. I received the Bills by the Hand of M --- , but defire the next Payment may be in Specie; for tho' I have nothing to alledge against the Man, yet it was always my Maxim not to trust but where there was an absolute Necessity. Let the Money therefore be fent to Don ** * * as Part of his Allowance, and he will remit it to me as foon as received. I should be glad your Excellency will give Orders to Don *** to be as speedy in sending as possible, for the present Occasion requires much more than I have to dispose of, as I do not doubt but your Agent here has informed the Ministry. I have given fresh Instructions to Mr. ----, and slatter myself your Excellency will approve what is therein contained, when he shall have the Honour to communicate it. I am, with the highest and most fincere Respect,

Your Excellency's

Most humble and

Most faithfully devoted, &c.

To his Excellency,

The MARQUIS * * * *.

My LORD,

I Could not refist the Opportunity of thanking your Excellency for the favourable Sentiments you were pleased to express for me in a late Debate. My Brother has not failed to let me know the many Obligations we both have to you, and I beg your Excellency to be affured I wish nothing more than an Occasion to testify in a proper Manner with how perfect a Zeal and Attachment I have the Honour to be

Your Excellency's

most devoted, &c.

To his Eminence

CARDINAL ***.

I Received your Eminence's of the 11th, and on the same Day the agreeable News that the Court of * * * had at last made the necessary Concessions, which gives me Time to manage the * *, and put an Interruption to the Clamours of our * * *; I say an Interruption, for they will soon see through the Feint. We must therefore make the best Use of the present Season, to which End I send Mr.

Mr. * * * to your Eminence with exact Copies of all the Letters that have passed between Don * * *, the Cardinal * * *, and the **, on the present Situation of Affairs fince August last. I need not defire your Eminence to be cautious in keeping my Lord * * * and Lord * * * from suspecting you gained them by my Means. And, now I am on this Head, could have wished your Court had been more circumfpect in relation to the Promotion of Cardinal * * *; it has given Room for many Reproaches on my Conduct, and made even the ** himself a little doubtful of the Sincerity of some of the Ministry; but I well know by whose hotheaded Counfels those Things were carried. and dare believe it never had been done had not your Eminence been unfortunately at **. Your Eminence is indeed the Head, the Heart and Hand of your Nation, and when private Affairs rob the Public of your Attention, tho' but for never fo small a Time, all is fure to go amis. I do not fay this in return to the Compliment you were pleafed to make me on the late happy Turn in the * *'s Defigns; for I frankly affure your Eminence Chance had more Share in that Event than either

either my Care or Skill, and if we are to thank any Body for it, it is a certain Favou-To fecure her to our Interest however, I have been the chief Means of getting her Pension increased to almost double what it was before, with a Title for the Gratification of her Vanity. These are Methods which must fometimes be taken, and have been found to fucceed where all others have failed. I trouble your Eminence too much, knowing how truly valuable all your Moments are, especially at this Criss. Mr. * * has my Orders to inform your Eminence of all the Particulars relating to the main Point, by which I doubt not but my Diligence will be apparent to those who are in the Secret of Things. I have only to intreat a speedy Remittance of the 100000 Crowns, and to affure your Eminence that I am

Your Eminence's

inviolably devoted, &c.

To his Excellency

DON ***

Am forry to have Occasion to write to your Excellency in the Manner I now do, but more fo to have involved others in the fame Fate with myself by a too great Dependance on the Promises of a Court, who think it their Due to have every thing done for them without their doing any thing, or in the least regarding either the Expence or Danger of the Service. I am not infensible of the Harshness of this Expression, but flatter myself with being excused, when I shall acquaint your Excellency that I received a Letter from Don * * *, wherein he is pleased to accuse me of confulting only my own Interest, and that of my Family; tells me in plain Terms, that the feveral Sums of Money remitted to me have not been applied for the Purpofes they were intended, and that your Court is determined to fend no more till I can make it appear what has been already expended has been of Advantage to the Defign. I cannot think your Excellency was privy to fo unjust an Accusation, and hope you will oblige that Minister

to retract his Words. What does he mean by demanding what Advantage? Was the fecure Landing of the last * * *s of no Advantage? Have the Concessions made on our Side * * *, almost to the Ruin of this Nation, been no Advantage to you? Have not the Ships of * * failed as fafely through the main Ocean as into their own Ports? And have not ours at the fame Time become a Prey to glut the Avarice of the ** Ministers? And could all this be done without an Infinity of Expence? Are Perfons in the Stations I have to deal with in these Affairs such as will be tempted by a trifling Gratuity? No, your Excellency well knows the Sums a Bufiness of far less Consequence cost but a few Years since, and it is a fure Demonstration that Don * * is a Politician of a young standing when he imagines my Demands exorbitant. I am loth to refent the Treatment he gives me in the Manner it feems to merit, but my Brother and Mr. - are of less forgiving Dispositions, and fwear they will act no farther in their Spheres, if a speedy and just Retribution is not made for what they have already done. I beg therefore your Excellency will take the Matter into Confideration, and have every thing once more adjusted, or I cannot answer

answer for the Event. I hope Mr. — has behaved to your Excellency agreeable to my Opinion and Character of his Abilities and Integrity. Fray favour me with an immediate Answer, and believe I have the Honour to be, with all Sincerity,

Your Excellency's most, &c.

To MONSIEUR ----.

SIR,

Give you the Trouble of this, because I hear his Eminence is gone to ----, not doubting but you will forward the inclosed with all Expedition. I take the Liberty to acquaint you, that in the Packet is a Letter from the * *'s own Hand to the * * of * * a Copy of which I fent to him, and have communicated the Original to the Cardinal. The Importance of it I know will make you more than ordinarily careful what Courier you intrust with it. Pray let the Sieur --know I approve his Conduct, and heartily wish, for the speedy accomplishing our present Undertaking, that all employed in it had the fame Zeal. I will not tell you the Sentiments I have on your Behaviour towards my Lord ---, because I think what I have or-

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dered in Pursuance to the Conference you had with him will better inform you of my grateful Sense of the Favour than any Words I am able to make use of, and which would only serve to take up too much of those Moments which may be, and I am certain are employed in Affairs of much more Consequence; so shall only tell you that I am, with great Respect,

Monsieur, yours, &c.

To his Eminence

The CARDINAL ***

Your Eminence's of the 7th found me involv'd in a good deal of Perplexity: I was just then returned from Council, where it was motion'd, by my Instigation, to remove the Duke *** from his Employments. You must believe I seconded it with all the Arguments I could find for the Occasion, and which I had prepared before-hand; but it was so vehemently opposed by the Lords *** and ***, that I could not at that Time urge the Matter any farther. Among other Things, they told me with a Sneer, that they supposed I had the same Reasons for my Animosity to that

that noble Duke, as I had formerly for the Earl *** and Lord ***, but hoped they should never live to see the same Success of my Attempts against him: I was about to reply, when his * * * who was present, stop'd my Mouth with faying, he would hear no farther Disputes on that Head, that only himself was Master of his Servants Fate, and would not be directed. On this we separated; and what the Event will be cannot yet determine. I think it not prudent, nor indeed altogether fafe, to renew the Matter till I have more Light into the ** "'s Intentions; which I flatter myself I shall soon arrive at, by Means of Madam - - -, who has promifed to found him the first favourable Occasion. Your Eminence may depend, that I shall be indefatigable in gaining that Point; for were he once out of the Way, it were easy for me to get the Affent of most of those, who encouraged alone by his Firmness, stand out against us, nor do I despair of bringing over even the Earl - - -, constant as he pretends, by a Bait I have prepared for him; but am forry to fay I cannot come into your Eminence's way of Thinking as to the Duke ***. Believe me I know him well, and whatever he might appear, or in reality be, when

when your Eminence saw him at the Court of ***, he is now staunch for the ****
Interest, and am almost certain there is no earthly Thing could tempt him to think of acting in Opposition to it. I know your Eminence has the late Treaty between us and the *** already communicated to you by my Brother, so have nothing farther to add as yet, but that I have the Honour to be, with the most zealous Regard and Attachment,

Your Eminence's

Most devoted and highly obliged, &c.

To his Excellency

The MARQUIS ***.

My LORD,

I Congratulate your Excellency on the happy Success of your Negotiation, and think you have deserved more from your Country than ever did the famous Scipio of Rome; for I believe all good Politicians will agree with me, that it is more glorious to preserve the Tranquillity and Riches of a Nation by an advantageous Peace, than it would be to wage the

the most successful War. Conquest cannot be attained without a great Expence of Blood and Treasure; but by this Treaty you have gained more than all your Arms could have done, even tho' you had subjected this whole Kingdom, and rendered it a Province to **. You will shortly now have it in your Power to give both Laws and Monarch to it; and I look on the grand Design as already accomplished. We must not, however, sit down content with what is done; every one in their different Station must still labour till the happy Point is entirely our own; among whom none will be more assiduous than him who has the Honour to be

Your Excellency's

Most devoted, &c.

To DON ***

Received yours of the 15th, and am glad to find both the Cardinal and Don --- at last convinced of my Sincerity. I neither condemn nor wonder they should give Credit to the Testimony of their Prisoners, rather than to my repeated Assurances, because those poor

poor Wretches could not possibly have any Interest in deceiving them. Things are here indeed in fuch a distracted Situation, that to represent them as they truly are, and to be believed, one had need be known to have no Manner of Concern in them. All Religion is fwallowed in Licentiousness! all Morality in Luxury! all natural Affection in Self-interestedness! all Regard for Superiors in Pride and Self-fufficiency! and all Policy in Whim and Caprice! We have almost as many different Opinions in Matters of Faith and of Government, as there are Heads of Families; and even the fame Persons very rarely think the same Thing two Days together; and if fuch a People are not ripe for any Change, I think never were any fo. I flatter myself therefore, I shall meet with no more Complaints on that Head, and am with great Respect,

Yours, &c.

To Monfieur the COUNT * *

My LORD,

Have now the Pleasure to acquaint you, that my late Proposal to the Earl of --has had the wished Effect, and you will find him

him act, or I am greatly deceived, in fuch a Manner as we have long aimed at; tho', as to the main Point, it is highly necessary he should as yet be kept in the dark: A too sudden Declaration of it might be apt to shock those Principles to which I am forry to find him too much bigotted; but when, for a Course of Time, he has done much to contribute to the bringing it about, it would be neither fafe nor honourable for him to go back. I have communicated my Sentiments on this Affair to his Eminence, and doubt not but he will shew you what I have wrote; but I chose, by way of Precaution, to give you a Hint of it also, because your Lordship, Idare say, remembers how fatal a Blow our Defigns once met with on the Score of one unlucky Expression. being inadvertently let fall. A Courier is just arrived from ---- who brings nothing of moment but a Confirmation of the last Resolutions taken by that Ministry. If you have any fresh Informations let me know them with as much Expedition as possible, and you will highly oblige

Your Lordship's, &c.

To Monfieur ----

rmain Point, stone in

SIR,

Write this more to shew the Defire I have of cultivating an Acquaintance with a Perfon whose Character I am so much charm'd with, than because I have any Thing of Moment to inform you of: Having been very full in my Dispatches to his Eminence, and to Monfieur the Count; both which I doubt not but will be communicated to you. I received your obliging Present, and as I can return it with nothing of our own Growth equivalent, have fent you my best Respects in an --- Mantle for the young Statesman, who, if my good Wishes have any Efficacy, will equal his Father in all that can grace the Cabinet of the greatest and the best of Princes. I beg to be favoured with Letters from you as frequently as your great Avocations will permit, and am forry his Eminence has made Choice of any other Canal than yours to convey to me the Knowledge of those Things he has not Time to write himself. But this is being too felf-interested, and what you will hardly thank me for, having too much already on your Hands. However, oblige, when you have a Leifure Moment, him who has the Honour

Honour to be, with all imaginable Sincerity and Esteem,

S I R, Yours, &c.

To his Excellency

DON ****.

7 Hatever your Excellency might feel in imparting the last Accounts, I must be supposed to feel much more in being made acquainted with fo alarming a Turn. not all the Vigilance of the ablest Statesmen, what not even all the Powers of Hell could have overthrown, the Caprice of one Person has done: I fay overthrown, for I look on our Affairs as past Retrieve; a War must now inevitably be the Consequence, and the News will no fooner be divulged than a Motion will be made in Council for declaring it. I fee it will be in vain for me to oppose it any longer, both Parties will concur in it, and the *** himself, already too much inclined, will filence all I could urge: Nay, I have now not one Argument to offer but what would appear too barefaced to hazard. My Situation is the most dangerous that can be by what I have done, and I am feen through by one Side,

and

and suspected by the other. My Enemies and yours will now triumph, the People will get the better, and their Impatience for Revenge be gratified, to the Destruction I fear not only of me and my Family, but likewise of all those high-formed Expectations his Eminence's Conduct had so justly given the Powers. of **. What Fiend could fpur Ambition to shew itself in so plain a Manner before the End was accomplished? I am certain this can never be the Effect either of the Cardinal or Don ---'s Counfels; no they have too cool and too able Heads, but I fear Don-; he has always testified a Disdain of all Dissimulation, as he calls it, and late Successes may have flushed him. I will not however presume to accuse his Politics in this Affair till I shall be more affured. I know he means well: but if it is owing to his Management that this unfortunate Accident has happened, may venture to fay he has contributed more to the Defeat of our Defigns than all our Enemies for fo long a Course of Time have been able to bring about. Your Excellency will pardon the Warmth with which I write, it is in fome Measure authorized by your own, but more so by the Cause. If any thing on your Side can be done towards retrieving this false Step,

Step, for Heaven's fake let it be speedily, or all Efforts will come too late. If I can now contribute any thing, it must appear as not coming from myself; therefore more and new Interests must be made, which will be attended with still more Expence. Your Court has frequently hinted as tho' too much had been already, but cannot, I think, now blame any thing for this fresh Addition but the Price and Heat of the ___. Be pleafed to communicate what of this your Excellency thinks proper to the Council. I shall not fail of doing all that remains, and is confistent with Prudence. If any thing of Moment occurs, I shall fend full Instructions to Mr. --- and Mr. ---, to whom I beg your Excellency will give your Commands as often as any Change shall happen; but I expect the first ill Accident on our Side will be the recalling those two faithful Agents who labour under the mortal Hatred of the Populace. I have fent a Copy of your Excellency's to my Brother, with Instructions to mitigate as much as poffible the Asperity of this late Treatment, because what comes from him may be supposed to carry greater Weight than any thing alledged by the Marquis, who they will be apt to look upon as too much interested in the Bufinefs.

finess. I am, as far as the present unhappy Circumstance will admit,

Your Excellency's most devoted, &c.

To DON ***.

N the midst of the Distraction I am in, I I rejoyce to find your Court so sensible of the ill Effects of the last Measures; but cannot flatter you with any Hopes of putting off a War. We must now therefore bend the whole Force of our Policy to make that War irkfom to those who have seemed most desirous of it. To which End I have laid down a Scheme which I must defire you will forward with all Speed to his Eminence Cardinal ---, it not being convenient for me in this Crifis to fend any Courier to ---. Mr. --has also a Copy, which he has my Orders to deliver to his Excellency Don ---. This is all I can do at present. When any more favourable Opportunity shall present, shall prove, as I have ever done, faithfully attached to my Engagements. I defire a speedy Remittance of the Sum agreed upon between his Excellency and myfelf, and that it may be as before in Specie; which concludes all at this Time from him

him who is in great Haste, and no less Anxiety,

Yours, &c.

To His Eminence

The CARDINAL ***

T Received your Eminence's of the 8th, by the Hands of Monsieur * * *, and am glad to find Things feem not in that bad Position, in your Eminence's Opinion, as they did to me: I shall ever readily submit to a Judgment fo much superior to mine; but must still believe, that if the War does not turn out very much to the Disadvantage of our Defigns, it will be chiefly owing to your Eminence's great Skill and Address. While we remain in good Harmony with your Court, I know much may be done; but I confess that I do not see how that can long fubfift, as Matters stand: I know your Eminence will do all in your Power, well knowing, that you can better destroy all the Meafures taken here, by appearing to be fatisfied with them, than by any Way acting in Opposition to them; but I dread the Vehemence of the * * * * Ministry will carry Things to fuch

fuch Lengths as will compel your Court to declare itself, and then ---. But I will not anticipate fo much dreaded an Event. Part of the ill Effects of this false Step, for I must still call it so, is already come to pass; the People lately fo divided, fo ripe for Mutiny, are now become perfectly unanimous; the Declaration of a War has stifled all Animosities between the contending Parties, and reconciled the *** to the People, and the People to the * * *. I need not inform your Eminence of how ill a Consequence this is. I will not however expatiate on fo disagreeable a Topic, as your Eminence justly observes, fince what is done is past Recal. All we have now to do, is to change our Conduct, and endeavour to turn the Tempest a different Way from what it was intended. By giving my Voice in Concert with my Adversaries, I have maintained Credit enough to nominate Commanders, which is a great Point, and what I at first despaired of. This your Eminence knows will occasion new Expences; I must therefore take the Liberty of remonstrating, that the Pension, as at present settled, will be found very deficient for the Purposes, and do not doubt but your Court will not think it too much to add 100000 Crowns more

more to this Quarterly Payment, which has now been due 15 Days. I depend on your Eminence to motion this to the rest of the Ministry, and have the Honour to be, with the greatest Integrity,

Your Eminence's

Most devoted, &c.

To the Sieur * * *.

are such as I know not how sufficiently to acknowledge: But as one Favour conferred draws on a Demand of more, so I think it not enough to be in Debt myself, but must also employ my Credit for my Friends. Monsieur * * * will inform you in what Manner I desire to be favoured. So, if you are so good to use your Interest in his Behalf, I will pass my Word he shall repay it with something in his Way, besides laying the highest Obligation on him who has the Honour to be with the most unseigned Regard,

Monsieur, Yours, &c.

To his Excellency

The MARQUIS * * * *.

My LORD,

T Am forry to be informed by the last Difpatches, of the Coldness with which the * * * received your last Proposals. Nothing has been wanting in me to inspire them with Sentiments more favourable to your Defigns; but I perceive, by the last Conference my Brother had with ***, that there are fome Concessions in behalf of their * * Trade, which they want to have made, yet do not care to ask. I am therefore of Opinion, that if some Offers of that Kind were hinted at, it might give a happy Turn to their Determinations: At least it can do no Harm to promise, Things may happen so as to give Excuses for not performing. Your Excellency knows my Meaning, but leave it to your own Wisdom to act in this Matter as you shall find proper. I need only remark, whatever is done on that Score can be no Breach of Honour in your Court, because with Persons of their Stamp and Character no Faith is to be observed. As they have, however undefervedly, much at present in their Power, 'tis highly necessary

necessary to prevent their being hurtful, some Expedient therefore must be thought upon, and I shall be glad to know the Result of the last Debates, which must in Consequence to the present Measures, have been pretty warm. I impatiently wait the Honour of your Excellency's Commands, and am

Your Excellency's most obedient, &c.

To MONSIEUR ----.

SIR.

His is to acquaint you that I received the Money; but I need not fay how feafonably, fince you are too well instructed in the Situation of Affairs not to know nothing in this Juncture could be done without Indeed I have nothing wherewith to reproach your Ministry on this Score: I wish from my Soul I could fay the fame by those of another Court; but a too great Deliberation, even in Matters of the smallest Moment, is the peculiar Characteristic of that Nation: This, however, ought not to be the Topic with which I should take up your important Give me leave then to thank your Time. for the many Favours conferred by you on F 2 Mr. Mr. * *, which I look on as done to myself; and if you would oblige me yet further, it must be by putting it in my Power to testify, by the same Manner, to some Friend of yours on this Side the Water, the Sense I have of your many Civilities, and with how much Gratitude they are considered by him who is sincerely

Yours, &c.

To DON ***

Ho' I ever had the highest Regard for Don ***, yet I never knew how deeply he was rivetted in my Esteem till I had the Misfortune of losing him. It is indeed a Misfortune to the common Cause, which is not to be expressed; and tho' I know his great Capacity, Zeal and Integrity, cannot fail of being highly instrumental to the Success of it, in what Nature soever he is employed, yet I am convinced, by many Mistakes that have happened fince his Departure, that he can no where be of fuch infinite Service as here, had not an unavoidable Necessity obliged him to be recalled. Those who occasioned it will in time fee their Error. I shall not be forry if you hint this to the Cardinal as coming from

me; and add, that I am not infenfible it was greatly to the Advice of the Duke of * * *, who, for what Reason I never could fathom, was never a Friend to that Minister. I wish the Interest of *** may suffer no more by the too communicative Humour of his Grace. than it has done by the Remisshess, as I heard he was pleased to call it, of the other. But this I mention only to yourfelf; I knew it would not be well taken by your Court, tho' a Truth too well known, and even acknowledged by those most his Partizans. I shall be glad to be informed how the Cardinal relishes Mr. * * *'s Proposal; I would have no Hand in recommending it, tho' I cannot but fay I think there are some Things in the Scheme, which, if improved, might turn out to Advantage; but I look on the Man as a Vifionary, and too much taken up with his own Projects, so leave him, and what he has to offer, intirely to the Judgment of those whose Favour he now is ambitious of obtaining. One Thing that feems to favour his Admittance into the Confidence of your Miniftry is, that nothing is more true than that his Affairs are fuch as will never permit him to return here again, and therefore will rejoice in accomplishing any thing that may affure him of

of a fecure Azylum among you. If you are asked any Questions concerning him or his Principles, I believe it will be most adviseable not to give your Opinion whichever Way it happens to lead. I had much more to say, but am this Instant obliged to attend the ***, and must refer it till another Occasion, who am, with great Sincerity,

Your most bumble, &c.

To his Eminence

CARDINAL ***.

I Have the good Fortune now to inform your Eminence that the chief Commiffions are now filled up, and with Perfons who will obey my Instructions in as ample a Manner as I could wish; so that I flatter myself the War will be conducted so as not to render it necessary for your Court to declare itself till a more convenient Criss; but we must be extremely cautious in our future Corespondence. Sir *** has discovered some Suspicions, and I have sound out that he has even gone so far as to tamper with one of the Couriers; all therefore that I write of Moment to your Eminence, or any other of the Ministry

nistry concerned in the Secret, shall either be fent by a private Hand, or under Cover to Monfieur * * *, who, being a Man in Trade, will be less liable to create Doubts. I am every Hour in Expectation of News from ***. 'Tis possible your Eminence may be beforehand with me in that Article; but left you should not, will fend an immediate Dispatch. Lord * * * is very much indisposed, and I fear will not be able to come to the Board for fome Time; for which Reason, wanting so powerful a Back, shall defer making any Motion as to the * * * Affair. I will not trouble your Eminence with any Particulars of the Defign lately formed against me; 'tis fufficient your Eminence is informed of it in grofs, and that I still live, and have the Honour to be, with my former Fidelity,

Your Eminence's most devoted, &c.

To DON ***.

Is it then impossible for me ever to receive the Honour of yours without some Reproaches mingled with your Civilities? Conficious as I am how little Ground there is for them, it is not to be wondered at, that I defire a more full Explanation of the Meaning.

I dare

I dare answer any Accusation can be made; either as to my Conduct in the grand Point, or any less material. Methinks the Necessity what I have already done lays me under to do more, and all in my Power, should be enough to convince less able Politicians than yourfelf, that I cannot now go back; and I would not give myself the Liberty even to think it is for that only Reason my Services have been of late so much depreciated. No. I look on it as the Effect of ill Offices done me by those who know not the Motives which engage me to act in the Manner I do. I could wish, however, a more perfect Confidence; for in the present Difficulties I labour under, any Addition ferves only to render me less capable of bringing Matters about to your Satisfaction. Judge of me therefore. I conjure you, by my Actions; compare the Uniformity of them, and I am then fecure that no invidious Reflections will have any Weight. Methinks it is no small Misfortune, that Time so precious as is ours, should be wasted in accusing and vindicating; and I am forry to have any Occasion to fay, that were twenty Years to be recalled, and I could · have foreseen the Injustice some Men have treated me with, I should not have had the Courage

Courage to engage in any Matter where they were concerned. I am far, however, from imagining you give any real Attention to the Calumnies of late thrown on me; if I did, I should indeed be inconfolable, since none can set a higher or more just Value on your good Opinion than him who has the Honour to be

Your most bumble Servant, &c.

To his Eminence

The CARDINAL ***

Letter upon the Back of another, if an unexpected Accident had not rendered it necessary. I had the Favour of a Visit last Night from Lord * * *, who drop'd some Hints, whether designedly or by Chance, I cannot be positive, as if Monsieur * * * had made him privy to the Scheme agreed upon by your Eminence and myself, to be kept intirely from his Knowledge. As it would be wholly improper for me to question him on that Article, I should be glad your Eminence would inform me if he had your Orders for the communicating it to him, without which I cannot think he would do it, and if he did

not, am strangely at a Loss to account for the Words Lord *** let fall. If they were occasioned only by Conjecture, I shall easily be able to remove all Suspicions on that Head, but if his Lordship be really entrusted, I shall stand greatly in Need of your Eminence's Advice how to behave on the Occasion. If it is done by your Instructions, I doubt not but there is good Reason for it, and should take it as a Favour to be satisfied; but I fear there is something more in it than as yet I can fathom. I impatiently wait your Eminence's Opinion, and am, with the greatest Veneration,

Your Eminence's, &c.

To the Sieur * * *.

I Received your Packet by ***, and fent the feveral Dispatches away as directed: I doubt not but by this, mine of the 17th has reach'd you; and have only this to add to what it contained, that the Earls of *** and ***, as well as Mr. *** have explained themselves more fully than I expected on the Declaration of his *** Majesty, and that no less than five of the chief Commanders talk of resigning their Commissions. This carries

carries a bad Face, and requires more than ordinary Circumspection to be used. Mr. *** makes an Entertainment for two of them today, and perhaps may have the Address to sound the Motives that have occasioned so sound the Motives that have occasioned so sound a Change in their Behaviour. Tho' I, for my own, impute it wholly to the hotbrain'd Zeal of that busy Fellow in the *** who I heartily wish were at the Bottom of the Sea. His Successes have put me to my last Shifts, and am certain, whenever the Truth is known, have raised this general Spirit of Discontent among them all. I am, with the utmost Sincerity,

Yours, &cc.

P.S. Communicate the Contents of this to his Eminence with my Duty.

To his Excellency

The MARQUIS ***.

My LORD,

I Send this under Cover to Mr. **, for at this Criss none are to be trusted but those whose Ruin must be involv'd in mine. I beg your Excellency will make use of the same G 2 Means

Means to convey all your Commands to me. I am forry it is not in my Power to remove your Excellency's Apprehenfions concerning the fending * * * to the * * *, I very well know he is not a Person to be gained, and all that can be done in this unlucky Affair, is to tie up his Hands as much as possible, at least till after the Arrival of the * * * s. I dare answer the Cardinal has taken such Measures as will fecure the * * * at least for a Time. The private Treaty now on the Carpet goes on as well as we can wish, and the last Money by ----, came very feafonably to forward I need not press your Excellency to be punctual in the Payment of the Sum agreed upon to Mr. ---, because we all know that Interest is the Soul of Secrecy. I am, with a profound Respect,

Your Excellency's

Most devoted, &c.

To His Eminence

CARDINAL * * * *

Have the Pleasure to send this by a Gentleman, who, under Pretence of making the Tour of ***, will, unsuspected, deli-

ver my Instructions to all the Courts, where at this time to fend Couriers might give Alarm. He can inform your Eminence, for I related to him the whole Affair, how much I laboured, and indeed more than was confiftent with the Caution I would choose to behave with in this important Crifis, to prevent any Reinforcement to be fent to the * * *; but in this I was overpowered, and all I could do was to prolong their Departure till fuch time as I flatter myself their Affistance will come too late. His Excellency Don * * * has Notice which Rout they are to take, and if his own Policy does not furnish him with some Stratagem to prevent their joining, I shall take it very ill, if for the future he accuses mine. It would be needless to repeat to your Eminence, who on all Hands must be informed of the fulfom Praises every Body here bestows on that rash Enterprizer * * *, whom I much mistake if he might not before this have been deprived of the Power of doing us the Prejudice he has. But of that another time. I. will not prefume to take up your Eminence's important Moments with any Complaints on an Affair in which you have no other Concern than for the common Good of our Undertaking, but intreat that by the first safe Hand

Hand you will communicate to me in what Manner I ought to look upon the last Remonstrance of Don *** at the **; for I confess myself a little at a Loss on that Head. Our ** meets on the 20th; I shall then have sufficient to inform your Eminence, and till then have the Honour to be, with the most perfect Veneration,

Your Eminence's most sincerely devoted, &c.

To Monsieur * * * *.

I Received yours of the 12th, and had anfwered it fooner, but that I waited for
News from ***, and I have now the Happiness to acquaint you, that the Rumours I
caused to be spread about concerning your
Court taking Umbrage at the Overtures made
to ***, have been so successful as to influence
that State to put an Article in the Treaty now
on Foot, which will go near to overthrow it
all. I have just dispatched fresh Instructions
to Mr. **, who, by seeming too forward,
will more puzzle the Cause; so that I almost
depend Things will go well on that Side. I
could wish there were none at home that gave
me greater Pain. I have lately received seve-

ral anonymous Menaces, and the Behaviour of fome Persons, and those not inconsiderable ones, makes me certain fomething is meditating against me; and even * * had the Boldness this Morning, as our Coaches passed each other, to accompany a flight Bow he made me with a malicious Sneer, which feemed to fpeak he imagined himself secure of gaining These Things would be fufficient his Point. to alarm me, had I not a faving Card to play, of which my Enemies have not the least Notion .--- You know what I mean; nor would I mention it, but to remind you of keeping well with Lord ---. Continue to footh him; be his Vanities never fo extravagant, praise all he does, and procure for him all the Advantages in your Power, we shall have time enough hereafter to be merry at his Follies. When a Fool is in Possession of a Secret such as he is unluckily intrusted with, he must be treated with the Respect due to a Man of Wit. had a long Conversation Yesterday with the Earl of ---; he feemed to be much upon his Guard when I mentioned the Death of Lord ---; and that unufual Referve makes me apprehensive Mr. --- has been tampering with I shall take it as a Favour if your next brings me Intelligence how he received the Motion

Motion made by --- when he was at your Court, and whether the Cardinal treated him with those Marks of Confidence he boasts of here. Pray commend me to the Sieur ---, and believe me to be, with all Sincerity,

Your most obedient, &c.

To his Excellency

MONSIEUR ***

My LORD,

He Honour of yours, and the agreeable News it brought, was a Confolation I stood greatly in need of in the Dilemma I then was in through the Carelessness, to give it no worse a Name, of Monsieur---. To make a Mistake in the Direction of a Packet of such Consequence, was fure what no Man before was ever guilty of. When I opened that brought to me, and found by the Contents it was intended for Lord ---, I doubted not but that defigned for me by the same Inadvertency had been given to him, as indeed it was left for him; had he happened to be in Town, all had been discovered, all had been totally defeated, and my Life and Fortune forfeited, with the utter Ruin of every one of those who espouse

espouse the Cause. What to do in this Perplexity I know not; for I could not suppose but the Packet would be prefently fent down to his Country-feat. At last I bethought me of a Fellow, who I had, by a Stratagem, got introduced to his Service, and who had served me as a Spy upon his Actions: Him I fent for, and having communicated the Affair to him, gained upon him to take the Packet that had been brought to me, after I had put it into a new Cover, and directed it for his Lordthip, and exchange it for that which was to be conveyed to him. The Diligence of the Fellow in this Action has prevented the ill Effect of the Adventure, tho' I protest to your Lordship I am yet scarce recovered from the Confusion it involved me in; but with such Words as I am able I heartily congratulate the happy Event of Monsieur --- 's Negotiation, and am apt to believe it will give a Turn to the present Sentiments of --- very much to our Advantage. Every Thing at present seems to promise well, our Enemies drop off apace; the celebrated --- has left the Stage of this Life; they tell me that --- is defpaired of, and Lord --- cannot long hold out. Three or four more fuch Losses will fink the Spirit of the Party, and make those that remain H more

more easy to be gained. Let Monsieur know the Money ordered to be paid into the Hands of Mr. - is not yet received; a Word from your Lordship may render that Minister more punctual than I find is his Custom; but methinks he should not need be reminded in an Affair where so much is at Stake. I suppose you are by this Time informed that the long talked of and expected Reconciliation is all at an end, and that so far from the two --- 's having an Interview, the Coach of-paffed by the very Gates of ---without stopping. This, among many other good Effects of your Policy, I believe may be chiefly attributed to your Management, for which you can never be too much trufted. too much recompenced. I long impatiently for the Account you promise in your next, and am, with the most inviolable Attachment and Respect,

Your Lordship's most devoted, &c.

To his Eminence

The CARDINAL____

My LORD,

T would be needless to trouble your Eminence with a Detail of what has happened fince my laft. I know you must by this Time have been informed of the Particulars by Monsieur ----, who, as he never was my Friend, would not fail giving the History of my Difgrace in all its Circumstances. In fine, Things have taken fo fudden a Turn, that I know not now if I can enough depend even on the very Person who I have entrusted with this, to be certain of its fafe Delivery. Sure I am, that those whom I had Reason to think most attached to me, have most shamefully deferted me; and if my Enemies push the Point as far as they now have it in their Power to do, I see no Refuge but a voluntary I hope I may be at least secure of that with you; nor will those at your Court who have not approved me as a M----r, refuse me a Welcome as a R---ee, fince were I, and those who must accompany me, once brought to the Scaffold, Things might, nay would be discovered, that would involve all

H 2 E---e

E---e in Confusion. I am far from being firous of making any Reproaches against the --- Court for the Slowness of their late Remittances; yet certain it is, that had they been less remiss, I had been enabled to make fomewhat a longer Struggle. It is the People, not the ---- to whom I owe my Ruin, and if I fall a Sacrifice, it is to them alone; Judge then how necessary it would have been, that fome Concessions had been made on the Part of --- to have occasioned a Holyday: Your Eminence is no Stranger to the good Effects every publick Shew has had to calm the Fury of the Populace of this Nation in many Instances. Sure now or never it was necessary, if they had either regarded their own Interest, or the Preservation of him who has not deferved they should behave with so much Indifference towards him; but it is now too late; all is over; it is now no longer in my Power to ferve them, or they to protect me. I wish both may not be Losers by the Bargain, and that a Time may never come in which they may repent their want of Atten-The Continuance of that Candour I have ever found from your Eminence, is at present my only Hope, as it is my only Confolation; if I am deprived of that, I am lost indeed:

indeed: Not that I so much regard the Loss of a few Years Life, as the Misery to which my Posterity must infallibly be reduced, by my falling a Victim, not fo much to the Malice of my Enemies, as to the Negligence of those I relied upon as Friends .--- Pardon, I befeech your Eminence, the Warmth with which I write; and if any unguarded Expression drops from my Pen, impute it to the Distraction of my Thoughts in so perplexing a Situation. Think how few I have here to trust, except those who are in the same wretched Dilemma with myfelf, and wonder not, that I take the Liberty to pour out my whole Soul in the Bosom of your Eminence. Think how fevere a Task it is upon me to be obliged to wear a chearful Brow in public, and appear unconcerned at the Menaces which even the lowest Ranks of People now presume to infult me with, while my Heart is oppress'd with fuch a Load of bitter Anguish, and trembles within me for the Consequences of this dreadful Turn of Fortune. --- Death and a beggar'd Race glare me in the Face .-- Ruin in its most horrid Shape stalks close behind me, and Curfes and the sharpest Reproaches encompass me on every Side. Derided by those I lately scorned, unpitied by those those whose Fortunes I have made, and hated by Millions who never saw my Face. What Condition so truly miserable as a fallen Statesman!

If any Thing can mitigate my Afflictions, it will be your Eminence's Answer, and to know that I have still some Share in your good Wishes, as you shall ever command mine, while Fate permits me to defire any Thing farther than an easy Passage. I am, with all due Reverence and Respect,

Your Eminence's

Most faithful, &c.

To his Eminence The CARDINAL ***.

My LORD,

You have scarce had Time to consider on my last long melancholy Epistle before I trouble you with another. I have just now received Information that my Impeachment is preparing, and that it will be crammed with Articles relating to the Intelligence between your Eminence, Don ——, and myself. I hope Monsieur —— has not intrusted any one less

less prudent or less faithful than himself with the Copies of any Letters that have paffed from the Year 1729, for all before I can find I have taken Care of those Means to evade. that came into my Hands, and will answer they shall never fall into those who would make an ill Use of them. The Opportunity the late-gave me has been extremely fortunate for my effecting this, as well as for taking some other Steps that are highly neceffary for my eluding the Malice of my Enemies, among whom I have none more formidable than the M-, who now retort the Contempt I once unhappily treated them with, with double Interest .-- 'Tis faid that they boast of Proofs against me on account of the landing without Opposition .- I cannot conceive what Proofs, unless Don - has been fo weak (which I know not how to think) as to intrust a Secret, on which so much depended, to the Ears of any of the ____Commanders, and it should have got Vent through fome of those who were taken in the Prizes; that would be indeed the finishing Stroke to my Misfortunes. I could wish, if any such Thing has happened, to be let speedily into the Truth. I have so few here to trust, that I dread being too bufy in making an Enquiry, because,

because, if discovered in it, that very Step would be looked upon as a Confirmation of my Guilt. For God's Sake inform me, as far as in your Eminence lies, on what I may depend. The evil, the long-dreaded Day approaches, and when that is passed, all Counsel, all Assistance will be in vain. My All is at Stake. Remember my Trouble, and in this last Exigence forsake not him who has been ever

Your Eminence's

Most devoted Servant, &c.

FINIS.

